



INSIDE GARDNER

Your Community

March - April 2015

Spring General Election

Three at-large councilmember positions are on the spring general election ballot which will take place on Tuesday, April 7, 2015.

Candidates include:

- Heath Freeman (incumbent)
- Randy Gregorcyk
- Brett Limer
- Rich Melton
- Lee Moore
- Tory Roberts (incumbent)
- Dr. Todd Winters (incumbent)



Other positions on the ballot include: Gardner Edgerton School District Board Member Positions 1, 2, 3, 4 and 7 and Johnson County Community College Trustees.

"Where do I vote on Election Day?" In Johnson County, Kansas, your cell phone has the answer. Text VOTEKS, your address and ZIP to 74574. Within 60 seconds a return message displays your polling place name and address.

For more information regarding the election or voter registration, visit the Johnson County Election website at www.jocoelection.org.

City Welcomes New Police Chief



The rigorous search for a new Police Chief for the City of Gardner has ended. At the February 16, 2015 City Council meeting, Mayor Chris Morrow announced the hiring of James Pruetting as the City's new Police Chief.

Pruetting previously worked for the Kansas City Police Department for 31 years serving in various high-level positions. His extensive background includes operational and budget management, policy development and improvement, labor relations, strategic planning as well as training and development.

"I am thrilled about this opportunity to serve a city that is seeing such population growth and economic development," said Pruetting. "Not only am I looking forward to contributing my law enforcement experience, but I am excited to live and work alongside the great citizens of this community to enhance public safety."

As the head of the department, Pruetting will lead a team of 34 employees. He also will help set the vision and direction for the police department along with managing operations and the department's budget.

"What makes this such a special hire is that we were able to gather public input regarding what the people of Gardner wanted in a Police Chief," City Administrator Cheryl Harrison-Lee said. "With the help of community partners, I believe we have the right person with a set of diverse skills and extensive experience to handle this complex job."

2015 State of the City Address



Please join Mayor Morrow as he reviews the accomplishments of 2014 and looks forward to the opportunities of 2015.

Public is welcome - no RSVP necessary.

Thursday, March 12th
8:30 AM
Gardner City Hall - 120 E. Main St.

Economic Development Symposium

Join the City of Gardner for an Economic Development Symposium - "Growth by Choice or Chance."

Wednesday, March 11th

6:30 to 8:30 PM

Gardner Edgerton High School
Lecture Hall
425 Waverly Rd.



Featured panelists will include:

- **Owen Buckley**
President, Lane4 Property Group
- **Bruce Kimmel**
Senior Financial Advisor, Ehlers
- **Bob Marcusse**
President and CEO, Kansas City Area Development Council
- **Joe Reardon**
Former Mayor/CEO of Kansas City, KS and Wyandotte County
- **Dotty Riley**
Attorney/Bond Counsel, Kutak Rock

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A newsletter published for the residents of
the City of Gardner
City Hall • 120 E. Main St.
Gardner, KS 66030 • (913) 856-0939

Mayor's Message to Gardner Residents



Greetings fellow citizens,

Winter. Good riddance, right? Before we bid winter a fond farewell, I would like to highlight a few things that happened around the City during the cold (but so far not so snowy) winter months.

First, civic engagement efforts have continued to build on the work done in 2014. Meetings with local residents included a first ever Citizen Forum on the 2016 Budget and a Citizen CIP Workshop. Also at City Hall we have begun our first Citizens Academy, "Gardner *YOU!*" which will wrap up later this spring. "Gardner *YOU!*" has received great reviews so far, and I look forward to seeing it continued in 2016.

Speaking of the spring season, it is all but upon us. It will be getting warmer and greener soon, and opportunities to get out and enjoy your community will abound. You may want to stay busy working in your own yard, or enjoy a plot in the Gardner Community Garden. This year, like every other year, I also recommend participating in our Earth Day/Arbor Day Celebration (and Greenway clean-up) on April 25th. It is a fun event and is filled with volunteers, from the young to the young at heart, and they are all filled with enthusiasm and community pride.



The month of April is also not far off, and in odd numbered years like this, so are local elections. Gardner City Council and USD 231 Board of Education elections will be contested on April 7th. I encourage you all to get to know your candidates and exercise your right to vote. Votes cast in these local elections are as impactful on your daily lives as any votes you ever cast. So please take time to educate yourself about the candidates and please vote on April 7th.

Best wishes everyone for an early arriving, warm and productive spring season,

Calendar of Meetings

Mar 2	City Council Meeting - 7:00 PM
Mar 5	Utility Advisory Commission Meeting - 7:00 PM
Mar 11	Economic Development Symposium - 6:30 PM - GEHS Lecture Hall
Mar 12	State of the City Address - 8:30 AM - City Hall Council Chambers
Mar 16	City Council Meeting - 7:00 PM
Mar 24	Planning Commission Meeting - 7:00 PM
Apr 2	Utility Advisory Commission Meeting - 7:00 PM
Apr 6	City Council Meeting - 7:00 PM
Apr 7	Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting - 6:30 PM
Apr 20	City Council Meeting - 7:00 PM
Apr 28	Planning Commission Meeting - 7:00 PM

Gardner City Council

Chris Morrow, Mayor

913-269-8495 (Cell)
cmorrow@gardnerkansas.gov

Kristy Harrison, Council President

913-884-2115 (Home)
kharrison@gardnerkansas.gov

Heath Freeman, Council Member

913-908-2627 (Cell)
hfreeman@gardnerkansas.gov

Tory Roberts, Council Member

913-449-5522 (Cell)
troberts@gardnerkansas.gov

Steve Shute, Council Vice-President

913-938-6887 (Cell)
sshute@gardnerkansas.gov

Dr. Todd Winters, Council Member

913-271-3587 (Cell)
twinters@gardnerkansas.gov

Messages may also be left for any
Council Member or the Mayor at
913-856-0939

City Management

City Administrator

Cheryl Harrison-Lee

charrison-lee@gardnerkansas.gov
913-856-0939

Finance Director

Laura Gourley

lgourley@gardnerkansas.gov
913-856-7535

Parks & Recreation Director

Jeff Stewart

jstewart@gardnerkansas.gov
913-856-0936

Police Chief

James Pruetting

jpruetting@gardnerkansas.gov
913-856-7312

Public Works Director

Brian Faust

bfaust@gardnerkansas.gov
913-856-0914

Items of Note, Project Updates & Community Information

Baseball and Softball Registration



Play Ball! The registration deadline for youth baseball, softball and t-ball is Friday, February 27. Drafts will be held in late March and practices will begin in early April. Games will begin early to mid June with the season scheduled to wrap-up by late June or early July. T-ball leagues are formed for children that are 5 and 6 years old. Coach pitch leagues are formed for those that are 7 and 8, with baseball and softball programs being organized for children that are ages 9 through 14. Uniforms will be provided to each child. More information can be found at www.gardnerkansas.gov or by calling Gardner Parks and Recreation at (913) 856-0936.

Discount Shop Event

Dick's Sporting Goods is hosting the Gardner Parks and Recreation Discount Shop Event at their Olathe, KS location at 15280 W. 119th St. on March 7 - 8, 2015. Download a **20% off coupon** at www.gardnerkansas.gov/parks.



Gardner Aquatic Center Pool Passes on Sale Now

Season Passes and Punch Cards for the Gardner Aquatic Center are currently on sale for the 2015 Summer Season. Purchase your pass by **May 1st** and receive \$20 off any family pass or \$10 off any individual pass.

Passes and Punch Cards can only be purchased at the Gardner Parks and Recreation Customer Service Counter located in City Hall. The counter is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Season Passes	Family	Individual
Resident *	\$140.00	\$80.00
Non-Resident	\$180.00	\$115.00

* Must show proof of residency at time of purchase

2015 Swimming Lesson Registrations

Opening day for swimming lesson registration is **Saturday, April 18th at 8:00 a.m.**

Session 1 June 1 - June 11
Session 2 June 15 - June 25

Session 3 July 6 - July 16
Session 4 July 20 - July 30

How to Register

1. **Online** at www.gardnerkansas.gov

Avoid long lines at City Hall and register online beginning at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 18th. For a smoother transaction, customers are encouraged to setup an online account early at www.gardnerkansas.gov/swim_lessons.

2. **Walk-In** at City Hall, 120 E. Main St.

Registration will be taken from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 18th. Please be aware that lines may be long! After April 18th, registration will be taken at the same location, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Please note that:

- Registration is done on a first come-first served basis
- Parents are allowed to register their children only - waivers must be signed by legal guardian
- One class per child - additional classes may be available at the conclusion of the first session



Upcoming Parks and Recreation Activities and Events

Youth Programs	Date	Registration Deadline	Age/Grade	Costs
Kids Garage Sale	March 21	March 16	6 to 16 years	\$7
Player Development Program	March 26 - April 30	March 20	5 to 12 years	\$65
Easter Eggstravaganza	March 28	March 25	4 to 12 years	\$15
Youth Tennis Lessons	March 29	March 23	5 to 12 years	\$35
Rec. Baseball/Softball/T-Ball	Late April - End June	February 27	5 to 15 years	\$50 - \$80
Park Champion	April 1	N/A	12 and under	Free
Swimming Lessons	April 18 at 8:00 AM	Until Full	18 mo. and older	\$50
Adult / Family Programs	Date	Registration Deadline	Age/Grade	Costs
Scrapbooking	March 20, April 7	Thursday before	12 and older	\$5
Women's Tennis	March 29	March 23	18 and older	\$35
Adult Softball	Early April	March 14	18 and older	\$450
Women's Volleyball	April 7	March 27	18 and older	\$150
Jazz in the Park	April 12	April 10	All ages	\$6 (lunch)
Earth Day	April 25	April 17	All ages	Free

Additional program information can be found by visiting www.gardnerkansas.gov/programs_activities/.



City of Gardner
120 E. Main Street
Gardner, Kansas

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U.S. Postage
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Gardner, KS
Permit No. 5

POSTAL PATRON GARDNER, KS 66030

Gardner Welcomes New Business



The City of Gardner welcomes Casey's General Store to their new location! A ribbon cutting was recently held by the Southwest Johnson County Chamber of Commerce on January 30. Now open 24/7 and located at 390 N. Moonlight Rd. Contact the store directly at (913) 884-6102.

Happening at the Gardner Library

Happy Birthday, 6 by 6

Saturday, April 11th - 9:30 to 10:45 AM

It's a party! 6 by 6, Ready to Read is the now-famous Johnson County Library program teaching the 6 skills parents and caregivers can help children develop as they learn to read. Our 6 by 6 characters are turning 6 years old this year. Join our celebration with games and early literacy activities!

Take Time to Sing with Alan Cunningham

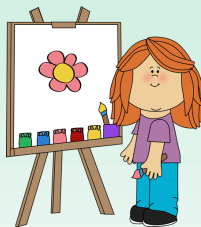
Saturday, April 11th - 10:45 to 11:45 AM

Alan Cunningham's original songs are all about the things kids love to dream about: trains, dinosaurs, tractors, teddy bears. Kids will have a great time singing along and moving as he performs songs of bumpy roads, big bad bumblebees and even a lullaby. Celebrate 6 by 6, Ready to Read's 6th birthday by singing and playing instruments in an active, fun-filled hour for kids young and old! Refreshments will be served.

Water Color with Brad Sneed

Saturday, April 11th - 1:00 to 3:00 PM

In this drop-in activity, learn how to paint with watercolors. Artist Brad Sneed will be on hand to demonstrate how he used watercolors to create our beloved 6 by 6 characters. Using the same paper and techniques Sneed uses, everyone will walk away with an original work of art! Ages 3 and up and fun for the whole family.



6 by 6 - Ready to Read Overview

Saturday, April 11th - 3:00 to 4:30 PM

Your preschool-aged child is busy learning about reading and language long before school begins. This 90-minute workshop for parents and caregivers will use the Library's 6 by 6, Ready to Read program to give you tips, tricks and hints that will help your child gain the skills he or she needs to become a successful reader. Registration is necessary for this popular program and begins March 28th at www.jocolibrary.org or call (913) 826-4600.

To learn more, visit the Gardner Library or www.jocolibrary.org.



204 W. Main St.



207 W. Shawnee St.

Gardner Historical Museum

P.O. Box 442

& THE BRAY HOUSE

Gardner, Kansas 66030

913-856-4447

Presents: **TRIVIA QUIZ!**

What year was the town of Gardner, KS staked out? a) 1850; b) 1857; c) 1861

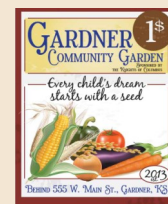
What year did the Gardner Historical Museum open? a) 1998; b) 2002; c) 2008

Visit our website to find the answers to these questions.....and more!

www.gardnerhistoricalmuseum.com

Gardner Community Garden

Good things are growing out at the Gardner Community Garden! Home Depot has partnered with the garden to fund and build a children's garden. Volunteers from CenturyLink will be hard at work on April 11 "Volunteer Day" to finish the work on the area with an anticipated opening day of April 22 (Earth Day).



The Community Garden will offer classes from 9:30 - 11:30 AM:

- March 7th (Library) Design & Plant Your Garden
- March 21st (Library) Vertical & Companion Planting
- April 4th (Garden) Tools: Use & Care
- April 18th (Library) Growing Dry Beans

www.gardnercommunitygarden.com

www.facebook.com/gardnercommunitygarden

gardnercommunitygarden@gmail.com